## **WOMAN'S AUXILIARY**





## Husband-Wife Membership

AT THE CLINICAL MEETING of the American Medical Association in Miami Beach in December, 1964, the House of Delegates passed a resolution urging the local medical societies to encourage the joint husband-wife membership project.

Why does the Auxiliary urge the physician to pay his wife's dues with his own? Because we feel strongly that every wife should be a member whether she takes an active part or not. At least she can read about the things we are doing.

When we are asked by the AMA and the CMA to educate our friends and neighbors in a hurry (as was the case with the Eldercare bills), we have no way of communicating with your wife unless she is a member of the Auxiliary. What we do accomplish with our 8,500 members would be much more than just doubled if we had all 20,000 wives as members.

Recently a physician's wife asked me why the Auxiliary was not taking a more active part in a project that she was urging through her PTA. I suggested that she write to the Auxiliary's Community Service chairman giving the facts and figures to her and suggesting how we could help. But my questioner replied that she was so active with her PTA that she didn't have time to write or even be a member of the Auxiliary.

The Auxiliary encourages its members to be active in community organizations. We want all physicians' wives to participate in local projects.

But isn't it important for them to be up-to-date on what is new in the medical world? How can they answer when they are questioned if they haven't received our publications or attended meetings?

Our projects encompass a wide variety of age groups and interests. For women interested in teenage problems, we have great need for volunteers. We train safe baby-sitters; we teach water safety, driving safety, teen-age nutrition; we educate about immunization, overweight, heart disease and cancer.

We have raised almost seventy thousand dollars this year to provide loans and scholarships to students interested in medicine, nursing and paramedical fields. These are boys and girls in our own communities in California. We interest young people in these fields by presenting health career days in high schools, providing sponsors and programs for their high school paramedical careers clubs.

We work with the older citizens in our communities, giving them personal attention where it is needed, including hot meals, letter writing, reading, running errands and the like.

We provide approved medical programs for outside organizations on a number of subjects. Your wife should know what is available for the organizations to which she belongs.

Physicians' wives are not all cut from the same pattern. We are homemakers, artists, musicians, businesswomen, athletes, educators-but we do have one thing in common, and that is our husbands' profession. That should be reason enough for the Auxiliary to have 100 per cent membership of those eligible.

We are a very exclusive club. All our efforts are aimed at helping our husbands see that our neighbors obtain the best medical care in the world.

The President of the Woman's Auxiliary to the AMA says: "Better Health-Better World" and I believe her.

> MRS. LYLE F. MURPHY, President, Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association

Mrs. Murphy is now a past-president. Her term of office ended with the annual meeting in March of this year.